



CARLTON-IN-LINDRICK METHODIST CHURCH

CONTACT

February 2023

Dear Friends

January can seem like a very long, dark month, although gradually we see the days lengthen. This continues throughout February, but the weather can still be very cold, if not snowy and icy. And this year, Lent begins in February.

Shrove Tuesday is the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday which is the first day of Lent. It's a day of penitence, to cleanse the soul, and a day of celebration as the last chance to feast before Lent begins. But there's more to Shrove Tuesday than pigging out on pancakes or taking part in a public pancake race. The pancakes themselves are part of an ancient custom with deeply religious roots.

Shrove Tuesday gets its name from the ritual of shricing that Christians used to undergo in the past. In shricing, a person confesses their sins and receives absolution for them. When a person receives absolution for their sins, they are forgiven for them and released from the guilt and pain that they have caused them. In the Catholic or Orthodox context, the absolution is pronounced by a priest. This tradition is very old. Over 1000 years ago a monk wrote in the Anglo-Saxon Ecclesiastical Institutes:

"In the week immediately before Lent everyone shall go to his confessor and confess his deeds and the confessor shall so shrive him".

Shrove Tuesday is a day of celebration as well as penitence, because it's the last day before Lent. Lent is a time of fasting and reflection, so Shrove Tuesday is the last chance to indulge yourself, and to use up the foods that aren't allowed in Lent. Giving up foods: but not wasting them. In the old days there were many foods that observant Christians would not eat during Lent: foods such as meat and fish, fats, eggs, and milky foods. So that no food was wasted, families would have a feast on the shricing Tuesday, and eat up all the foods that wouldn't last the forty days of Lent without going off.

The need to eat up the fats gave rise to the French name Mardi Gras; meaning Fat Tuesday. Pancakes became associated with Shrove Tuesday as they were a dish that could use up all the eggs, fats and milk in the house with just the addition of flour.

The forty days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday are, in the Christian tradition, a time for fasting and reflection. Fasting doesn't necessarily mean giving things up; rather it means eating simply during the week; and the fast can be broken on Sundays. Many people may find themselves fasting all year round, as the cost-of-living crisis continues, and for them, Lent can be more a time of reflection. Can we live our lives more simply? Is this even possible or is living simply now a way of life, and a difficult one?

We all need hope, and for Christians, that hope is in Easter, to which we look forward during Lent. Hope can be seen in many ways, but one is when the flowers of spring begin to emerge from the ground. Kate McIlhagga, of the Iona Community, wrote this Invocation for Lent:

*Into the dark world
a snowdrop comes,
a blessing of hope and peace
carrying within it a green heart:
symbol of God's renewing love.
Come to inhabit our darkness, Lord Christ,
For dark and light are alike to you.
May nature's white candles of hope
remind us of your birth
and lighten our journey
through Lent and beyond.*

May you find blessings in Lent as you journey towards Easter.

Meg

Rev Meg Burton

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY		
Sunday 5 th	11.00 am	Morning Worship – Rev Alan Hindmarch <i>Please note both time and preacher are different from the Plan</i>
Monday 6 th	10.30 – 12 .30	Warm Space – Warm Welcome
Sunday 12 th		
Monday 13 th	10.30 – 12.30	Warm Space – Warm Welcome
Sunday 19 th	11.00 am	Morning Worship – Rev Felicity Ferriter – Holy Communion
Monday 20 th	10.30 – 12.30	Warm Space – Warm Welcome
Wednesday 22 nd		* Ash Wednesday
Sunday 26 th		
Monday 27 th	10.30 – 12.30	Warm Space – Warm Welcome

* See below

Ash Wednesday

There are Ash Wednesday services at South Anston Methodist Church at 11am, Dinnington Methodist Church at 2pm and St John's, Carlton at 7pm (Meg thinks), to which all are welcome.

Warm Space – Warm Welcome



From 16 January our Coffee Morning has been extended and 'rebranded' as Warm Space – Warm Welcome, as part of the national initiative to provide somewhere free and warm for people to spend time this winter, whilst saving energy costs at home. We'll be open from 10.30 am – 12.30 pm every Monday.



Come and have a chat, a warm drink and light refreshments, and there'll be board games, books, jigsaws and magazines available if you wish to pass some time. Or if you just want space to sit, that's fine too. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you.

Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association Book & Toy Sale

The Volunteers' Manager at Clumber Park has sent, via Kathryn, her thanks for the boxes of books donated to the second-hand bookshop after the BB&GA Book Sale in November. She was impressed with the quality of the books and will be happy to receive more in the future.



Recycling Tablet Packaging



Most of you reading this will take tablets at some time, even if it's only the occasional painkiller. Others will have more, and the pop-out blister packaging can't be placed in your home recycling bin. The cardboard boxes obviously can, but Superdrug stores with a pharmacy accept the empty blister packets for recycling. There is now a box at the back of church for these, if you would like to do a bit (or a bit more) for the planet and save this packaging going into landfill. They will then be taken to Superdrug in Retford.

Live simply, so others can simply live.

Quoted by Mahatma Gandhi and Mother Teresa

STATUES / SCULPTURES (Yvonne)



Christ the Redeemer in Rio de Janeiro is one of the new seven wonders of the world. Larger ones have followed - Christ the King in Poland and Christ of the Peace in Bolivia, and others in Spain and Portugal are all very impressive.

I was fortunate to attend a service in the plinth of Christ the Redeemer in Madeira – though it was in Portuguese!

In New York, the Statue of Liberty offers a beacon of hope. In England, the Angel of the North is 20 metres high towering over the A1, with arms outstretched.



Photo of Cristo Rei in Madeira

'Another Place' features 100 cast iron figures of Antony Gormley facing the sea at Crosby beach.

There are sculptures to be seen at Chatsworth and Yorkshire Sculpture Park near Wakefield. The great cutlery sculpture in the Millennium galleries at Sheffield is striking. In London, there are statues of Churchill, Nelson, Shakespeare, Florence Nightingale, kings and queens. Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens is especially appealing. Eric Morecambe is by the bay at Morecambe and captures his sense of fun. Greyfriars Bobby dog statue in Edinburgh is still waiting for his master,.

Others are thought provoking. The Knife Angel is made of 100,000 knives to raise awareness of anti-violence. The iron shoes on the Danube promenade are especially poignant and powerful. The empty shoes are in memorial to Hungarian Jews murdered there in WWII. 185 Empty White Chairs are a memorial to those who died in the earthquake in Christchurch, New Zealand.

In recent years, a number of town and city centres have had a sculpture trail – robins in Nottingham, puffins on the east coast and mammoths in Norfolk. These have been auctioned later to raise money for charities.

Recently the Harley gallery featured sculptures of recycled materials.

The Great British Bake Off has seen many amazing cake sculptures.



Nature has her own marvellous 'sculptures' too, examples being cloud formations, rock formations, coastlines, snow and snow drifts, icicles, frost patterns on car windscreens and spiders webs which become more prominent when covered in frost.





Bread Sculptures

Use white bread flour and follow instructions on instant dried yeast packet until the dough is ready to shape. Try making a turtle, crab or alligator from the dough.

Gingerbread Dough for gingerbread people or a house.

8 oz margarine
8 oz sugar (white or brown)
18 oz plain flour
3 rounded tsp ground ginger
1 level tsp bicarbonate of soda
Golden syrup

Cream butter and sugar together. Add flour mixed with ginger & bicarb. Add warmed syrup to make a soft dough. Knead mix. Roll out dough on floured surface. Cut out biscuits. Bake for about 10-15 minutes at 180°C / 160° Fan.

There are kits available to buy to make a gingerbread house.

PARABLES

Jesus told this parable: A farmer went out to sow seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown." He who has ears to hear, let them hear.

Luke 8: 4-8

Have you noticed how our reactions to the same thing vary with circumstances? One wintry Saturday morning my wife and I were shopping, slipping and sliding through the snow. It was a nuisance. On Saturday afternoon, I went sketching in the local park. Few people were about, and those who were must have thought me mad, standing ankle deep in snow, pouring over a cold sketch pad. But the park was beautiful, the light and shadow, the muted colour, the simplification of form.

For some reason the parable of the sower came to mind. 'Parable of the *snow*, more like,' I said to myself. Then I thought, 'But why not. If Jesus had walked through snowfields instead of through harvest fields wouldn't he have had something to say?' So I took the parable and rewrote it, in paraphrase anyway. Here it is:

The snow came. And as it snowed, some snow fell along the footpath, white and pure, until the feet of busy people turned it brown and dirty. Some snow fell on the road, where it brought peace and silence, until the cars came, skidding and uncontrolled. Some snow fell on rocky

ground where it remained, white and clean, until the sun came out, and it melted away. And some snow fell on the mountains, where it gave pleasure to the skier, and joy to all those who saw its beauty. Hear then the parable of the snow. The snow is like the word of God, each flake beautiful and perfect.

The snow on the footpath is like one who hears the word and accepts it with joy. But the demands of business and busyness taint and destroy it. The snow on the road is like the one who hears, but the world and its wealth and glamour leads him astray. The snow on the rocky ground is the one who hears and accepts but has no staying power. The thaw comes and his belief is swamped, flooded and drowned.

The snow on the mountains is like those who hear and accept, and their faith becomes a thing of beauty and joy, reaching up to the heavens, declaring the glory of God.

You who have ears to hear, listen to the parable.

Eddie Askew (1985)



What do you ask of us Lord?

You know our possibilities, you know our frailties, our weaknesses, our prejudices.
Yet, you still call us to your work.

You challenge us to stand against injustice; to overcome our fears;
to act as your hands; to be your voice;
to be your ambassadors on earth emulating your preference for
those living in poverty and the marginalised.

With you in us and beside us we can fulfil what you ask of us.
Amen.

Sheffield Methodist District News

QUIZ TIME



Answers

Christmas Traditions

1 (c) Japan 2 (b) Germany 3 (f) Venezuela 4 (d) Netherlands 5 (a) China 6 (e) South Africa

Christmas Carols – First Lines

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed | 7. See amid the winter's snow |
| 2. O little town of Bethlehem | 8. See him lying in a bed of straw |
| 3. Love came down at Christmas | 9. As with gladness men of old |
| 4. Come and join the celebration | 10. Angels from the realms of glory |
| 5. The first nowell the angel did say | 11. Brightest and best of the sons of the morning |
| 6. O come, all ye faithful | |

Scrambled Chocolates

Celebrations

Snickers
Twix
Mars
Bounty
Milky Way
Galaxy Milk
Galaxy Caramel
Maltesers Teasers

Heroes

Dairy Milk
Dairy Milk Caramel
Twirl
Wispa
Eclair
Dinky Decker
Crunchie
Cadbury Fudge
Crème Egg Twisted

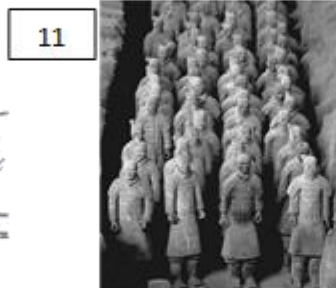
Roses

Golden Barrel
Country Fudge
Hazel in Caramel
Hazel Whirl
Strawberry Dream
Tangy Orange
Crème
Signature Truffle

Quality Street

Caramel Swirl
Orange Crunch
Milk Choc Block
The Purple One
Strawberry Delight
Orange Crème
Toffee Penny
Toffee Finger
The Green Triangle
Coconut Éclair
Caramel Brownie

Statues, Sculptures and Well-known Places



Surround yourself with people whose eyes light up when they see you coming.
The top of one mountain is the bottom of the next, so keep climbing, and finally,
slowly is the fastest way to get to where you want to be.

Quoted by Hamza Yassin, 2022 Strictly Come Dancing winner

Closing date for items for March Contact – Monday 13th February

CHILDREN'S PAGE

The Boy Jesus at the Temple

Hello

When Jesus was 12 years old, his parents took him with them to the feast of the Passover. They went every year. There would be a lot of people travelling because they all wanted to be in Jerusalem for the Passover. There would be literally millions of people in Jerusalem for the Passover. Joseph and Mary and Jesus celebrated this special meal in Jerusalem and then the trek home began. After a day of travelling Mary and Joseph began to look for Jesus. They asked among their family and friends but they couldn't find him.

There was only one thing they could do. They turned round and walked back to Jerusalem. It took them three days to find Jesus. He was in the Temple with the teachers. These were teachers who taught about the religion and the Law. Everyone was amazed at some of the answers that Jesus gave, and at the questions he was asking.

Mary took Jesus to one side and said, "Why have you treated us like this? We have been searching everywhere for you." Jesus replied, "Didn't you realise that I would be in my Father's house."

Jesus then set off for home with his parents. He did what they told him. As he grew God was pleased with him and people found him good company.

Luke 2 v 52 (Good News) says: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and man".

This is all we hear about the boyhood of Jesus.

God bless you

Rev Alan (Chaplain – 1st Carlton Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association)

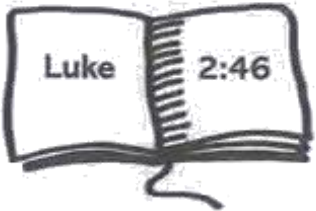


Jesus goes missing!

Jesus went missing in Jerusalem! Where did Mary and Joseph eventually find him?

Use the code to find out

↖	M	N	H
↙	E	P	I
⚔	L	T	E
	☼	☼	○



○ ↙ ☼ ↖ ☼ ⚔ ○ ↙ ○ ⚔

☼ ⚔ ☼ ↙ ☼ ↖ ☼ ⚔ ○ ⚔

How long did they search for him?

$(4 \times 3) - 10 = \underline{\quad} \times 8 = \underline{\quad} + 4 = \underline{\quad} - 1 = \underline{\quad}$ days

As the weekly worship sheets from the Methodist Church have now ended, we will be looking at other ways of providing some type of resource or reflection, particularly for those who are unable to attend worship.

Here, Meg has provided the set lectionary readings, and highlighted an appropriate verse from a hymn.

Sunday 5th February

Isaiah 58: 1-9a

Psalms 112: 1-9

1 Corinthians 2: 1-12

Matthew 5: 13-20

Singing the Faith 255 v 3

The kingdom of God is justice and joy,
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy;
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace,
the prisoners are freed, the sinners find place,
The outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share,
and hope is awakened in place of despair.

**The kingdom of God is challenge and choice,
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross,
our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.**

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal,
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole;
the heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call,
and all things cry glory to God all in all!

Bryn Rees (1911-1983)

Sunday 12th February

Deuteronomy 30: 15-20

Psalms 119: 1-8

1 Corinthians 3: 1-9

Matthew 5: 21-37

Singing the Faith 691 v 3

What shall our greeting be:
Sign of our unity?
'Jesus is Lord!'
May we no more defend
barriers he died to end:
give me your hand, my friend –
one Church, one Lord!

What is our mission here?
He makes his purpose clear:
one world, one Lord!
Spirit of truth, descend;
all our confusions end:
give me your hand, my friend –
'Jesus is Lord!'

**He comes to save us now:
to serve him is to know
life's true reward.
May he our lives amend,
all our betrayals end:
give me your hand, my friend –
'Jesus is Lord!'**

Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)

Sunday 19th February

Leviticus 19: 1-2, 9-18

Psalms 119: 33-40

1 Corinthians 3:10-11,16-23

Matthew 5: 38-48

Singing the Faith 611 v 2

Brother, sister, let me serve you.
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

**We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.**

I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister let me serve you.
Let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

Richard A M Gillard (b1953)

Sunday 26th February

Isaiah 49:8-16a

Psalms 131

1 Corinthians 4: 1-5

Matthew 6: 24-34

Singing the Faith 254 v 1

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
and his righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you;
Allelu, alleluia.**

Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
seek and ye shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you;
Allelu, alleluia.

We shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord;
Allelu, alleluia.

Karen Lafferty (b 1948)

He spreads the snow like wool
and scatters the frost like ashes.

Psalm 147: 16

